

This listing of the claims will replace all previous versions:

1. (currently amended) A method for the ~~introduction~~ induction of the production of TGF- β 1 and of the expression of TGF- β 1 in and/or on ~~Treg~~ regulatory T cells comprising administering to an individual in need thereof ~~utilizing~~ one inhibitor or ~~of~~ several inhibitors of alanyl aminopeptidases and/or of enzymes having a similar substrate specificity for the induction of the production of TGF- β 1 and of the expression of TGF- β 1 in and/or on ~~Treg~~ regulatory T cells, with the proviso that the inhibitor of alanyl aminopeptidases and/or of enzymes having a similar substrate specificity is not thalidomide.
2. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the one inhibitor or the several inhibitors of alanyl aminopeptidases and/or of enzymes having a similar substrate specificity is/are at least one member selected from the group consisting of actinonin, leuhistin, phebestin, amastatin, bestatin, probestin, arphamenin, MR 387, β -amino thiols, α -amino phosphinic acids and their esters and their salts, α -amino ~~phosphonats~~ phosphonates, α -amino boronic acids, α -amino aldehydes, hydroxamates of α -amino acids, N-phenyl phthalimides, N-phenyl homophthalimides, and α -ketoamides, ~~thalidomide and its derivatives.~~
3. (currently amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein, ~~as the one inhibitor or the several inhibitors,~~ α -ketoamides is selected from the group of α -ketoamides, preferably consisting of 3-amino-2-oxo-4-phenylbutanoic acid amides, and / or α -amino phosphinic acids, preferably D-Phe- γ [(PO(OH)-CH₂)-Phe-Phe, and / or N-phenyl homophthalimides, preferably PAQ-22 as the N-phenyl homophthalimide, and / or the α -amino phosphonates, preferably is selected from group consisting of RB3014 and/or phebestin, particularly preferably PAQ-22, RB3014 and/or phebestin is/are used.
4. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein cytosolic alanyl aminopeptidase serves as the enzyme having a similar substrate specificity.

5. (original) The method according to claim 4, wherein PAQ-22 is used as the one inhibitor or wherein the several inhibitors comprise PAQ-22.
6. (currently amended) A method for ~~preventing and/or~~ treating autoimmune diseases comprising administering to an individual in need of treatment a composition comprising one inhibitor or ~~of~~ several inhibitors of alanyl aminopeptidases and / or of enzymes having a similar substrate specificity for preventing and/or treating autoimmune diseases, wherein the administration to the individual results in the prevention and/or treatment of the autoimmune diseases, with the proviso that the inhibitor of alanyl aminopeptidases and/or of enzymes having a similar substrate specificity is not thalidomide.
7. (currently amended) The method according to claim 6, wherein the autoimmune disease is selected from the group consisting of rheumatoid arthritis, Lupus Erythematoses, multiple sclerosis, insulin dependent diabetes mellitus (IDDM), Morbus Crohn, Colitis Ulcerosa, psoriasis, neurodermatosis, glomerulonephritis, interstitial nephritis, vasculitis, autoimmune diseases of the thyroid gland, autoimmune hemolytic anemia or other chronic diseases having an inflammatory genesis ~~as, for example, arteriosclerosis.~~
8. (cancelled)
9. (currently amended) A method for ~~preventing and/or~~ treating allergies comprising administering to an individual in need thereof ~~utilizing~~ one inhibitor or ~~of~~ several inhibitors of alanyl aminopeptidases and or of enzymes having a similar substrate specificity for preventing and/or treating allergies of the type I (according to Gell and Coombs), hay fever or allergies of ~~the~~ type II, III or IV.
10. (currently amended) A method for ~~preventing and/or~~ treating bronchial asthma or hay fever as allergies of the type I (according to Gell and Coombs), and/or contact allergies as allergies of ~~the~~ types II, III or IV, the method comprising administering to an individual in need of treatment a composition comprising one inhibitor or several inhibitors of alanyl aminopeptidases and or of enzymes having a similar substrate specificity for preventing and/or treating autoimmune diseases, wherein the administration to the individual results in the prevention and/or treatment of one or more of said allergies.

11. (currently amended) A method for suppressing graft rejections comprising administering to an individual, wherein the individual has received or is expected to receive a tissue graft, one inhibitor or several inhibitors of alanyl aminopeptidases and or of enzymes having a similar substrate specificity for suppressing graft rejection reactions, wherein the administration to the individual results in suppression of rejection of the tissue graft, with the proviso that the inhibitor of alanyl aminopeptidases and/or of enzymes having a similar substrate specificity is not thalidomide.

12.-16. (cancelled)

17. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein peptide fragments of pathogenic autoantigens or synthetic analogs and/or specific antigenic components of pathogenic microorganisms are used in addition.

18.-19. (cancelled)

20. (currently amended) A medicament or pharmaceutical preparation method comprising utilizing one inhibitor or several inhibitors of alanyl aminopeptidases and/or of enzymes having a similar substrate specificity for the preparation of a medicament or of a pharmaceutical preparation for the ~~introduction~~ induction of the production of TGF- β 1 and of the expression of TGF- β 1 in and/or on ~~Treg~~ regulatory T cells in an individual in need thereof, with the proviso that the inhibitor of alanyl aminopeptidases and/or of enzymes having a similar substrate specificity is not thalidomide.

21.-24. (cancelled)

25. (currently amended) A medicament or pharmaceutical preparation method comprising utilizing one inhibitor or several inhibitors of alanyl aminopeptidases and or of enzymes having a similar substrate specificity for the preparation of a medicament or of a pharmaceutical preparation for ~~preventing and/or~~ treating autoimmune diseases in an individual in need thereof, with the proviso that the inhibitor of alanyl aminopeptidases and/or of enzymes having a similar substrate specificity is not thalidomide.

26.-27. (cancelled)

28. (currently amended) A medicament or pharmaceutical composition preparation method comprising utilizing one inhibitor or several inhibitors of alanyl aminopeptidases and/or of enzymes having a similar substrate specificity for the preparation of a medicament or of a pharmaceutical composition for ~~preventing and/or~~ treating allergies of the type I (according to Gell and Coombs), hay fever or allergies of the type II, III or IV in an individual in need thereof.

29. (cancelled)

30. (currently amended) A medicament or pharmaceutical preparation method comprising utilizing one inhibitor or several inhibitors of alanyl aminopeptidases and or of enzymes having a similar substrate specificity for the preparation of a medicament or of a pharmaceutical preparation for suppressing graft rejection reactions, with the proviso that the inhibitor of alanyl aminopeptidases and/or of enzymes having a similar substrate specificity is not thalidomide.

31.-38. (cancelled)

39. (currently amended) Pharmaceutical preparation, comprising one inhibitor or ~~of~~ several inhibitors of alanyl aminopeptidases and/or of enzymes having a similar substrate specificity as well as one or several pharmacologically unobjectionable carrier, additive and/or auxiliary substance(s), with the proviso that the inhibitor of alanyl aminopeptidases and/or of enzymes having a similar substrate specificity is not thalidomide.

40. (currently amended) Pharmaceutical preparation, comprising one inhibitor or several inhibitors of alanyl aminopeptidases and/or of enzymes having a similar substrate specificity and peptide fragments of pathogenic autoantigens or synthetic analogs and/or specific antigenic components of pathogenic microorganisms as well as one or several pharmacologically unobjectionable carrier, additive and/or auxiliary substance(s), with

the proviso that the inhibitor of alanyl aminopeptidases and/or of enzymes having a similar substrate specificity is not thalidomide.

41. (currently amended) The method according to claim 6 or claim 7, wherein the inhibitor of alanyl aminopeptidases and/or of enzymes having a similar substrate specificity is selected from the group consisting of actinonin, leuhistin, phebestin, amastatin, bestatin, probestin, arphamenin, MR 387, β -amino thiols, α -amino phosphinic acids and their esters and their salts, α -amino ~~phosphonats~~ phosphonates, α -amino boronic acids, α -amino aldehydes, hydroxamates of α -amino acids, N-phenyl phthalimides, N-phenyl homophthalimides, and α -ketoamides ~~thalidomide and its derivatives~~.
42. (currently amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein the inhibitor of alanyl aminopeptidases and/or of enzymes having a similar substrate specificity is selected from the group consisting of actinonin, leuhistin, phebestin, amastatin, bestatin, probestin, arphamenin, MR 387, β -amino thiols, α -amino phosphinic acids and their esters and their salts, α -amino ~~phosphonats~~ phosphonates, α -amino boronic acids, α -amino aldehydes, hydroxamates of α -amino acids, N-phenyl phthalimides, N-phenyl homophthalimides, α -ketoamides, thalidomide and its derivatives.
43. (currently amended) The method according to claim 11, wherein the inhibitor of alanyl aminopeptidases and/or of enzymes having a similar substrate specificity is selected from the group consisting of actinonin, leuhistin, phebestin, amastatin, bestatin, probestin, arphamenin, MR 387, β -amino thiols, α -amino phosphinic acids and their esters and their salts, α -amino phosphonats, α -amino boronic acids, α -amino aldehydes, hydroxamates of α -amino acids, N-phenyl phthalimides, N-phenyl homophthalimides, and α -ketoamides, ~~thalidomide and its derivatives~~.
44. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein the inhibitor of alanyl aminopeptidase is phebestin.

45. (new) The method of claim 7, wherein the chronic diseases having an inflammatory genesis is arteriosclerosis.
46. (new) The method of claim 6, wherein the inhibitor of alanyl aminopeptidase is selected from phebestin, PAQ-22 and RB3014 and the individual is treated for a disease selected from the group of diseases consisting of rheumatoid arthritis and Lupus Erythematoses.
47. (new) The method of claim 46, wherein the inhibitor of alanyl aminopeptidase is phebestin.